

Sea Turtles and Beachfront Lighting

































Why not light a lighted
beach even more to
frighten turtles away?

If turtles aren't
disoriented by the moon,
why should lights harm
them?



5-12-98



How bright can a light
be without harming sea
turtles?

Rule of Thumb:

If an observer located anywhere on the beach can see the actual light source, then that light can harm sea turtles.

My neighbor has lights
on the beach. Why
should I darken mine?

Will setting up lighted
barges offshore work to
attract hatchlings off
lighted beaches?



How can sea turtle
conservation justify
turning off lights that
are needed for human
safety and security?

The Details:

LIGHT MANAGEMENT

TURN OFF
UNNECESSARY LIGHTS



USE TIMING

Throughout the nesting and hatching season

Throughout the night

ATTENTION

APRIL 1 THRU NOV 1 IS
SEA TURTLE NESTING SEASON
THIS LIGHT SWITCH SHALL
REMAIN IN THE OFF POSTION
DURING THIS TIME PERIOD

LIMIT DURATION

Motion-detector switches

USE GOOD LIGHT PROPERTY CONTROL

Lower

Shield

Recess

Redirect







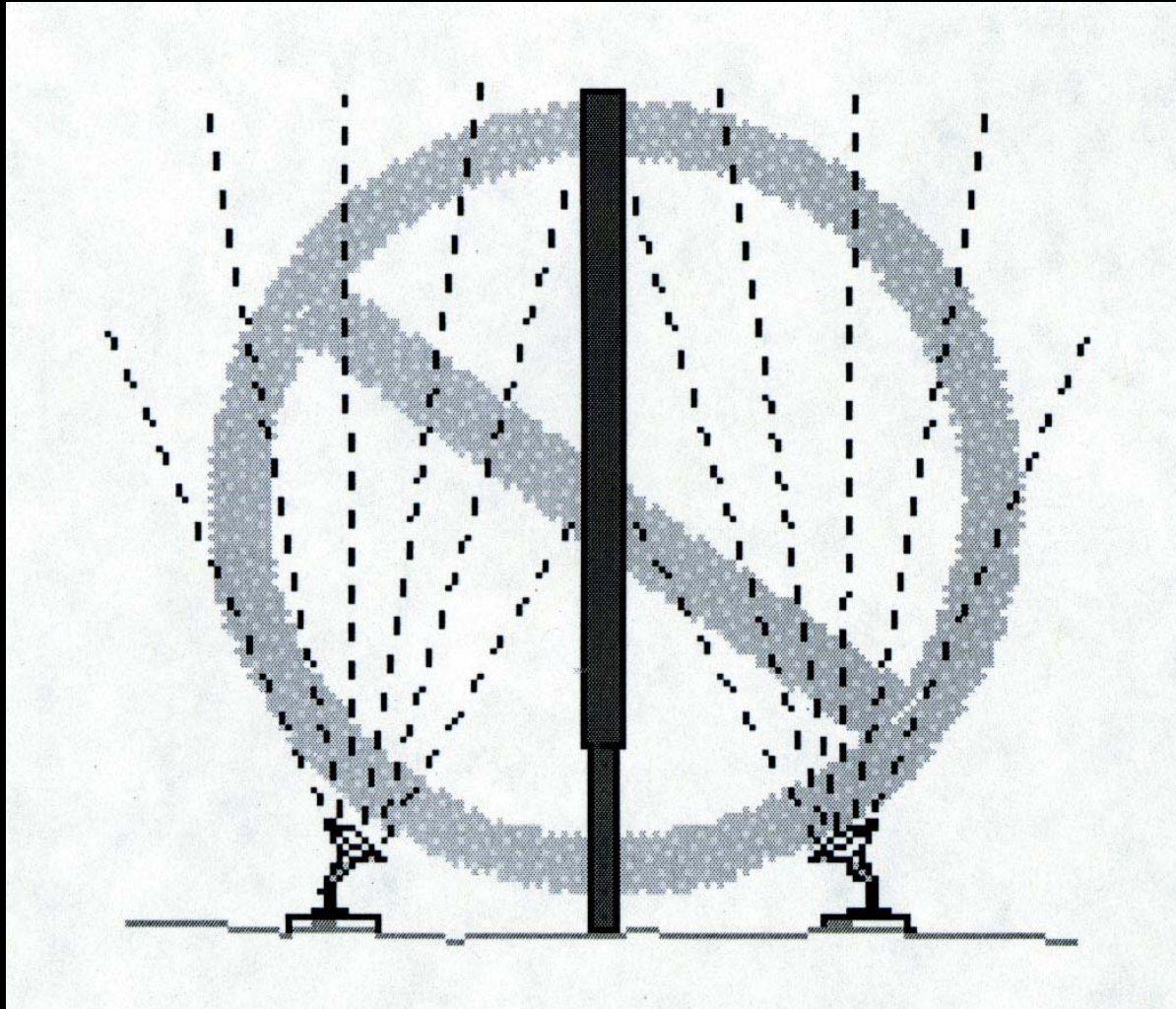








POOR LIGHT MANAGEMENT



Ground-mounted Floodlights

POOR



Poorly directed parking lot lighting can cause great problems on sea turtle nesting beaches.

BETTER



Fixtures with 90 degree cutoff angles can reduce the amount of stray light reaching the beach.

MUCH BETTER



Fully hooded floods can direct light accurately and reduce stray light even more.

BEST



Low-mounted, louvered, bollard fixtures comprise the best strategy for lighting parking lots near nesting beaches.

USE LIGHT SCREENS



MODIFY COLOR

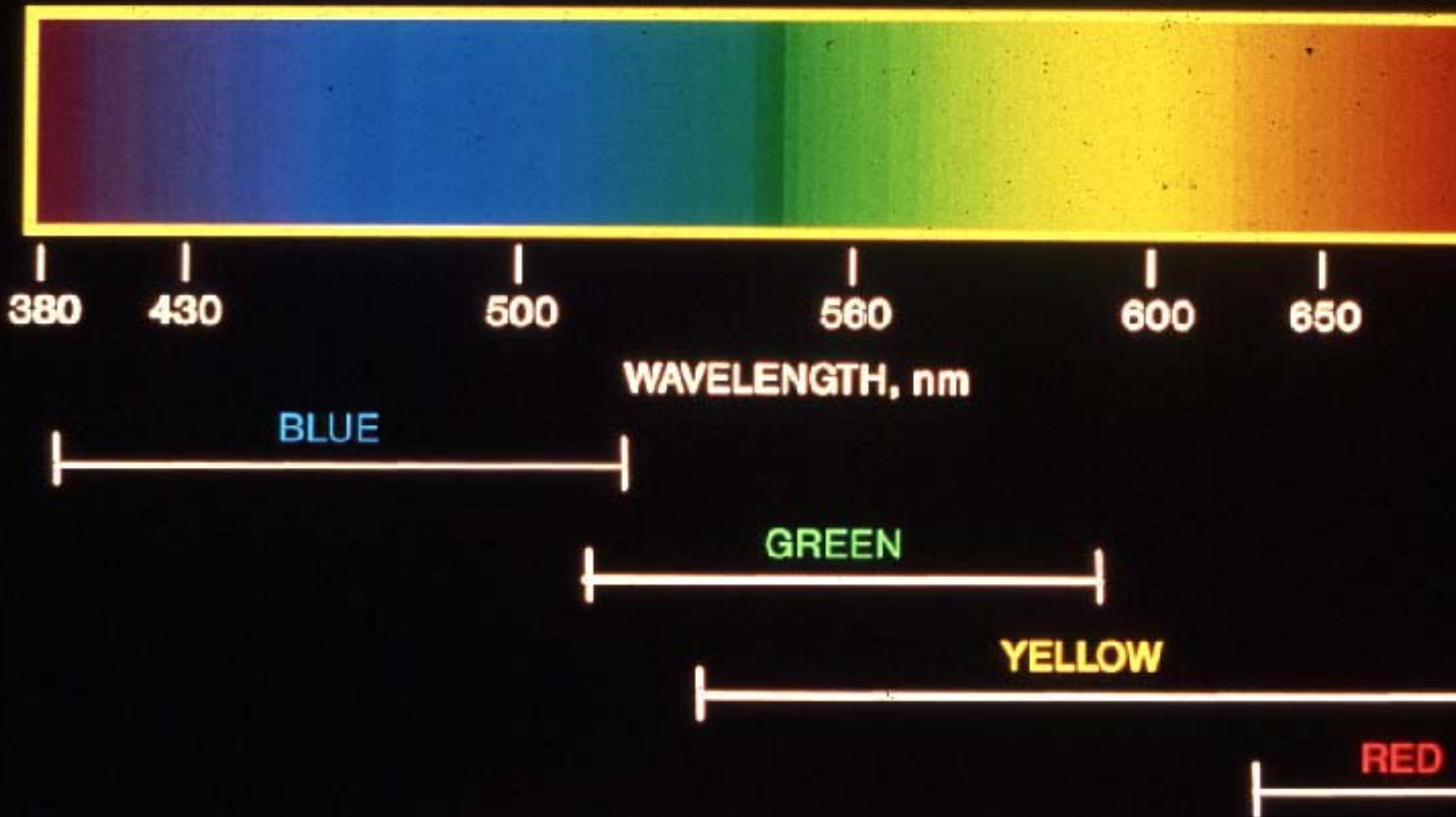
Low pressure sodium vapor

Yellow bug lights

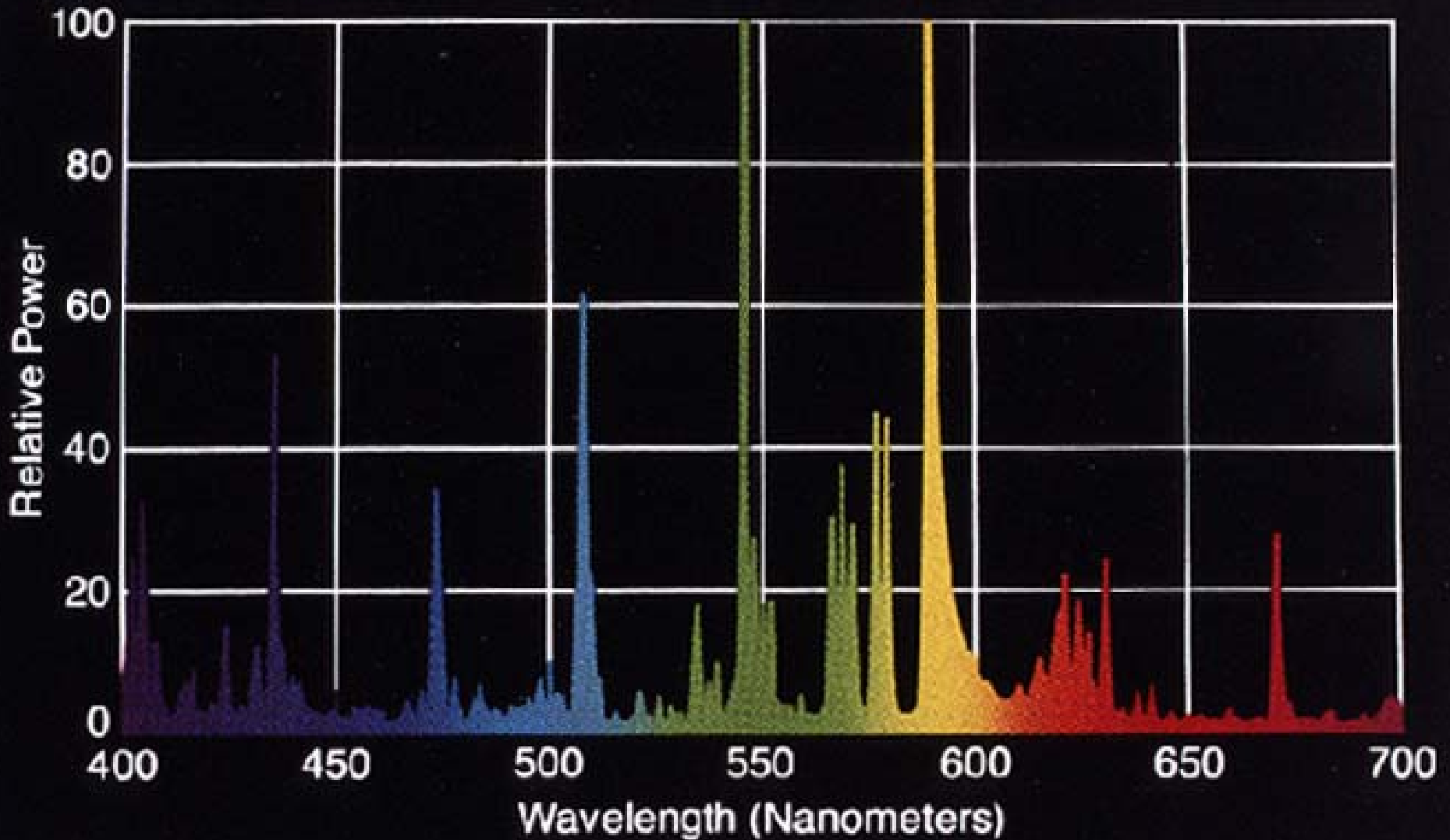
Red light-emitting diodes

True red neon

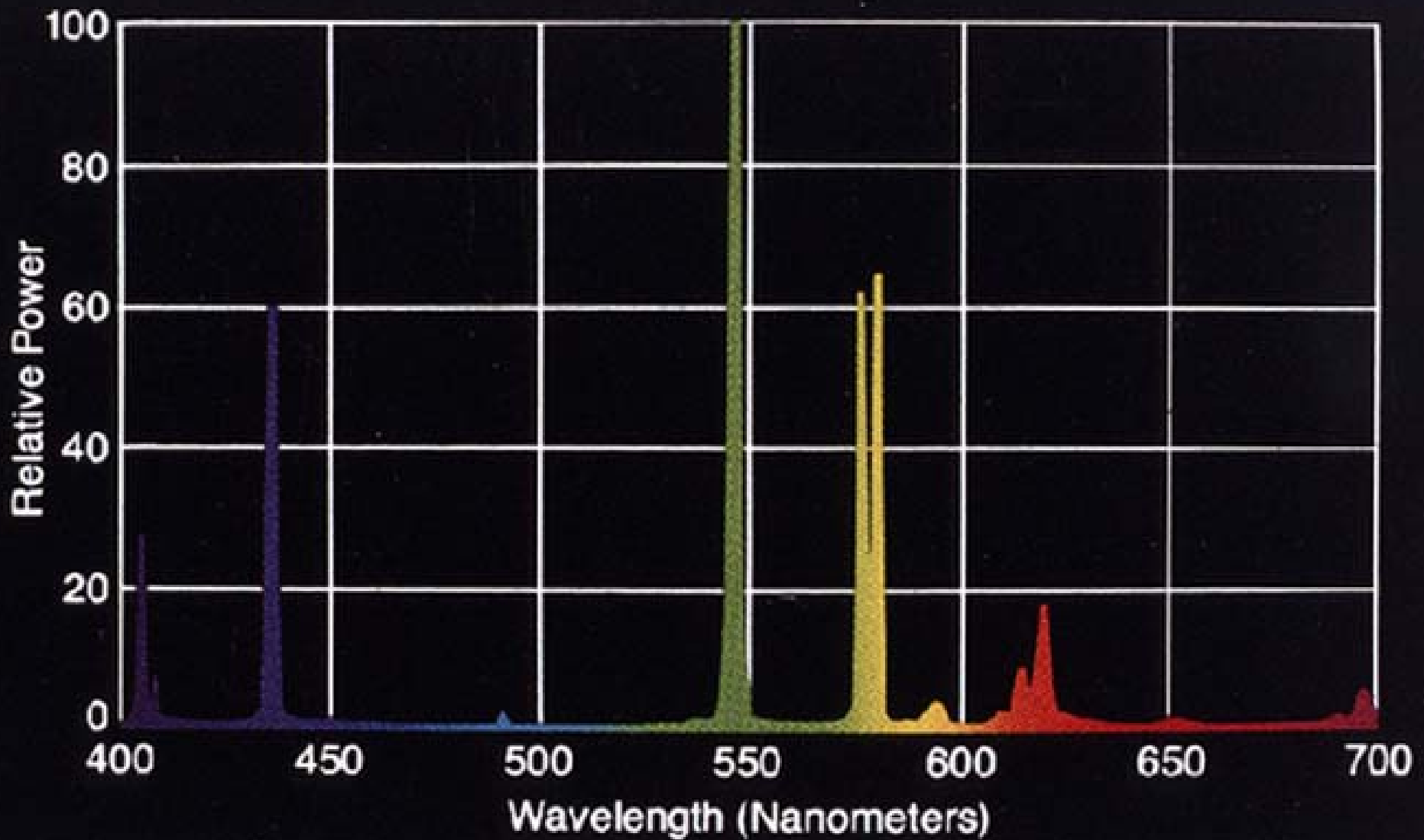
Light Spectra of Color Filters



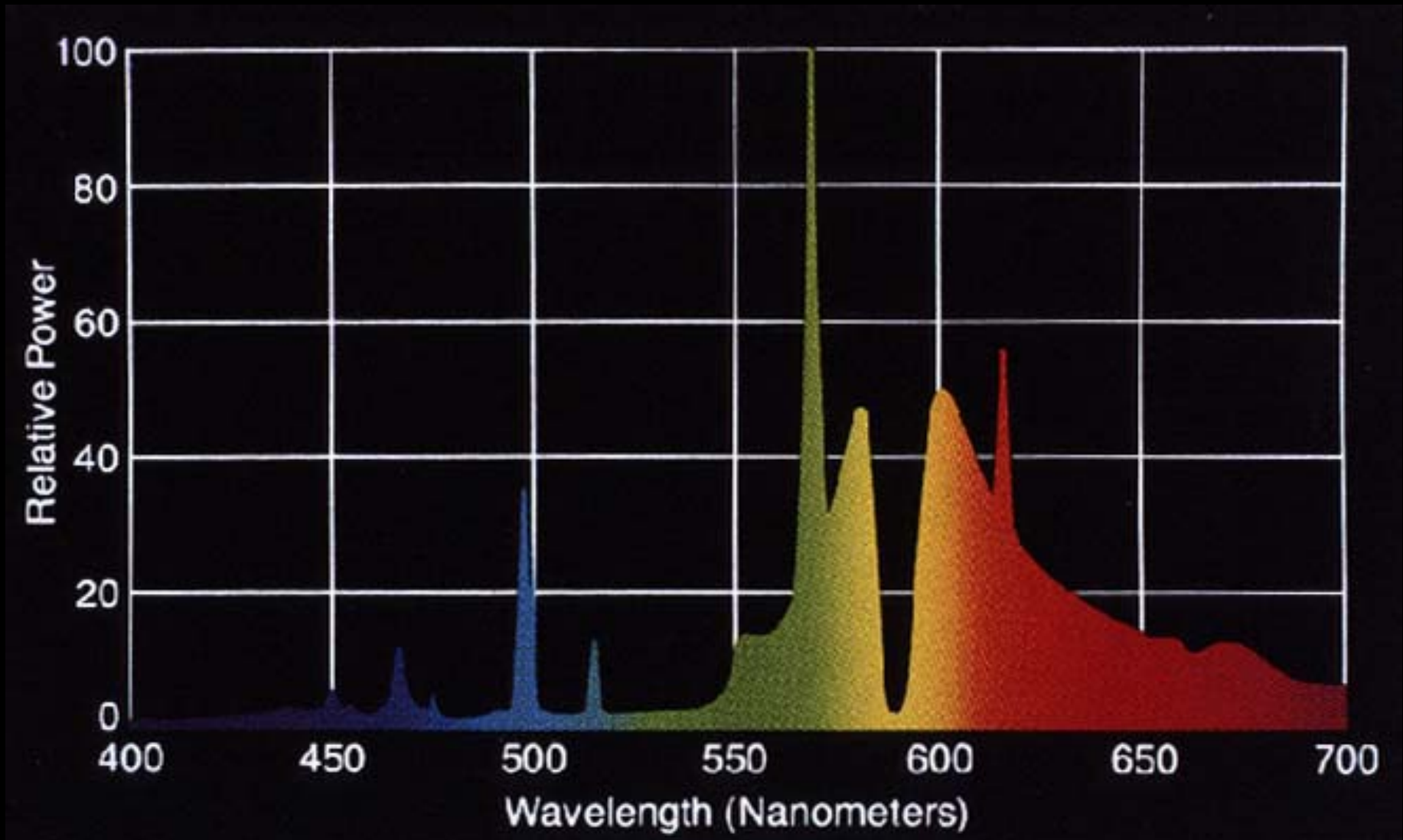
Metal Halide



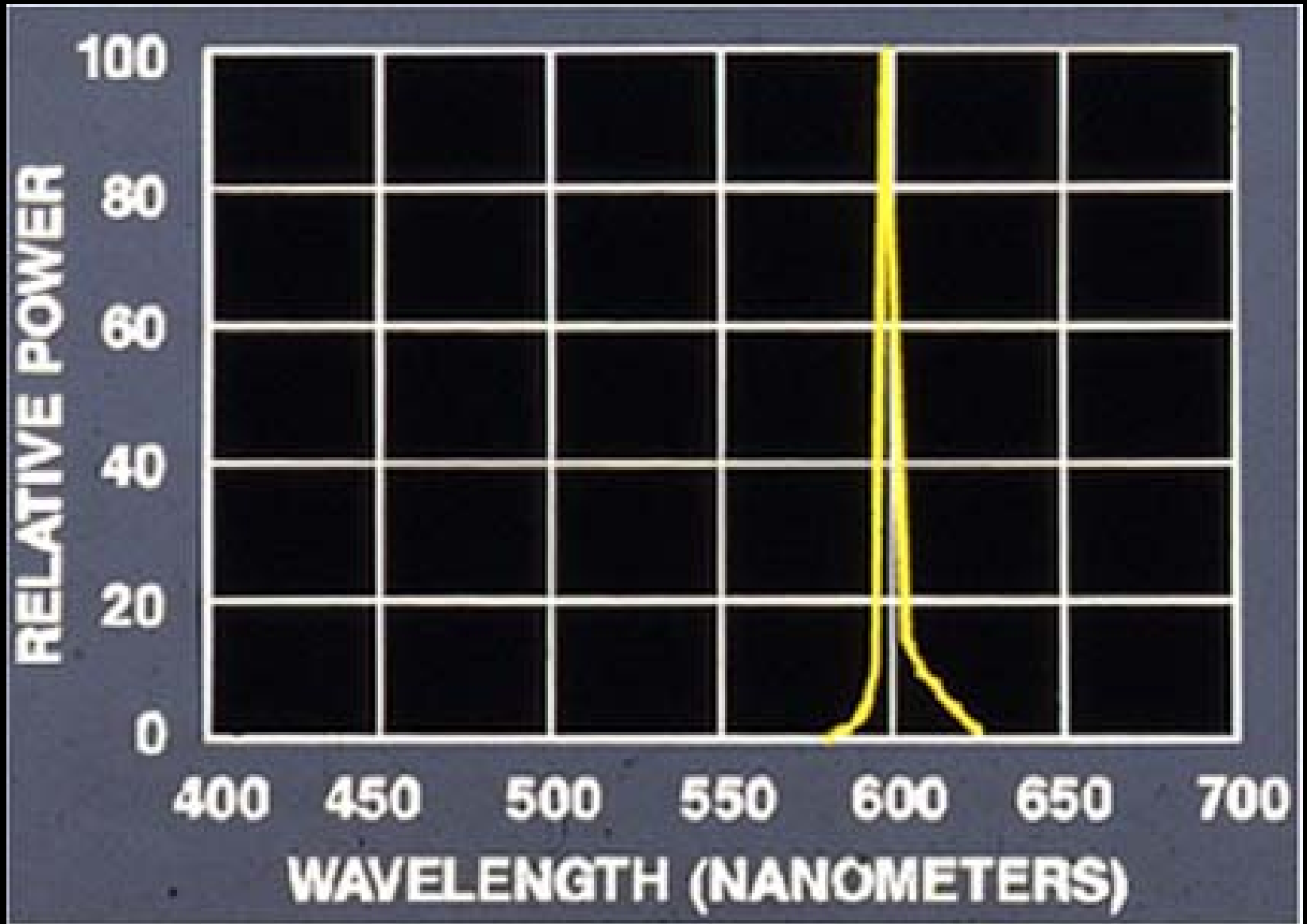
Mercury Vapor



High Pressure Sodium Vapor



Low Pressure Sodium Vapor







INDOOR LIGHTING

Close curtains or blinds

Move lamps away from windows

Apply window tinting



